- Fig. 5. Barychilina? semen, sp. n. a, right? valve; b, portion of ornament. Moravia. Fig. 6. Entonis serratostriata (Sandb.). a, left valve; b, edge view. France. Fig. 7. Primitia mundula, var. sacculus, nov. Hollow cast of right valve.
- Fig. 8. Bollia varians, sp. n. Right valve.

Fig. 9. The same. Left valve. Fig. 10. The same. Right valve. Fig. 11. Beyrichia strictisulcata, sp. n. Fig. 12. Drepanella serotina, sp. n.

Fig. 13. Strepula? annulata, sp. n.

Offdillen, Dillenburg, Nassau.

## IX.—Descriptions of new Coleoptera from New Zealand. By Captain Thos. Broun.

[Continued from vol. xiv. p. 428.]

# List of Species.

Group PSELAPHIDÆ.

Pselaphus ventralis. Bryaxis Hectori. Sagola rugifrons.

spinifer.
emineus.

Euplectus tumipes.

parvulus. modestus.

---- arohaensis. --- foveiceps.

--- semiopacus. - pusillus.

Group Silphidæ,

Silphotelus nitidus. Bæosilpha rufescens. Mesagyrtes scabripes. Choleva marginalis. --- suturalis.

Group COLYDIDÆ. Coxelus thoracicus.

Group BOTHRIDERIDÆ. Bothrideres obsoletus.

Group Lathrididæ. Lathridius sulcifrons. Corticaria clarula.

Group Copridæ.

Saphobius tibialis.

Group Lucanidæ. Mitophyllus cylindricus. - angusticeps.

Group Melolonthidæ. Psilodontria viridescens. Pœcilodiscus pulcher. Odontria obscura.

Group Elateridæ. Lomemus puncticollis. Zeaglophus pilicornis.

Group Dascyllidæ. Cyprobius terrenus. Veronatus amplus, Cyphon McKerrowi.

Group Melyridæ. Dasytes nigripes.

Group Cloidæ.

Cis fulgens. — pygmæus.

— lobipes.

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Group OPATRIDÆ.
Paraphylax binodosus.

Group Trachyscelidæ. Chærodes fuscatus.

Group DIAPERIDÆ.
Menimus lævicollis.

Group TENEBRIONIDÆ.
Demtrius carinulatus.

Group CISTELIDÆ.
Omedes apterus.

Group Salpingidæ. Salpingus ornatus.

Group OTIORHYNCHIDÆ.
Catoptes spermophilus.
—— æqualis.

Group Erirhinidæ.

Pactola humeralis.

Group Cossonidæ.

Pentarthrum Philpotti.
—— antennale.

Group Scolytidæ.
Acrantus opacus.

Group Anthribidæ.
Anthribus flavipilus.

Group Lamiidæ. Somatidia picticorne.

Group EUMOLPIDÆ. Atrichatus æneicollis.

#### Group Pselaphidæ.

The more complex genera have been divided into sections, each distinguished by one or more easily seen characters. This arrangement, I am well aware, is not perfect, but it will be an aid to the discrimination of the numerous species now found to exist. The numbers prefixed to many of the names refer to the 'Manual of New Zealand Coleoptera.'

#### PSELAPHUS.

Sect. I .- Eyes moderately large and prominent.

226. P. pauper, Sharp.
227. P. pilistriatus, Broun.
1156. P. dulcis, Broun.
2462. P. Cavelli, Broun.

Sect. II.—Eyes small or abortive.

1696. P. caecus, Broun. 1697. P. delicatus, Broun. 2462. P. sculcicollis, Broun. P. ventralis, Broun.

#### Bryaxis.

#### Sect. I.—Antennæ 11-articulate in both sexes.

 228. B. inflata, Sharp.
 240. B. grata, Sharp.

 229. B. Sharpi, Brown.
 242. B. nasuta, Brown.

 2346. B. platynota, Brown.
 1478. B. punctata, Brown.

 231. B. micans, Sharp.
 1479. B. calcarata, Brown.

 233. B. piciceps, Brown.
 1869. B. latipennis, Brown.

238. B. deformis, Sharp. 1155. B. ignota, Brown.

Sect. II.—Antennæ 10-articulate in the males; ninth joint large, prolonged outwardly.

232. B. platyarthra, Broun.

2464. B. conspicua, Broun.

1347. B. rudicorne, Broun.

2465. B. costata, Broun.

Sect. III.—Ninth joint large, oblong or elongate.

237. B. crassicornis, Broun. 239. B. impar, Sharp.

1476. B. glabrata, Broun. 1477. B. nemoralis, Broun. 1873. B. foveatissima, Broun.

243. B. fulvitarsis, Bronn. 234. B. dispar, Sharp.

B. setifer. Broun.

Sect. IV.—Ninth joint large, quadrate.

236. B. mundula. Broun. 1870. B. decens, Brown.

B. diversa, Broun. B. Hectori, Brown.

1872. B. forficulida, Brown.

Sect. V .- Ninth joint large, subtriangular.

235. B. impressifrons, Broun, 1871. B. Munroi, Broun, 1645. B. sylvicola, Broun.

B. allocer.i, Broun.

1699. B. fraudulenta, Broun.

Sect. VI.—Joints 4 to 8 transverse. 1154. B. pagana, Broun.

Sect. VII.—Ninth joint transverse, tenth large. 241. B. altula, Broun.

SAGOLA.

Sect. I .- Claws of posterior tarsi as large as the tarsi themselves,

251. S. notabilis, Brown.

2466. S. macronyx, Broun.

Sect. II.—Dilated sides of thorax marked off by the anterior prolongation of the lateral foveæ.

250. S. pulcher, Brown.

1579. S. brevitarsis, Broun.

2468. S. robusta, Brown.

252. S. deformipes, Broun. 1883. S. parallela, Broun. S. citima, Broun.

1574. S. excavata, Broun.

Sect. III.—Head with laterally distended hind angles like Cucujus.

1157. S. genale, Broun. 1875. S. insignis, Broun. 1873. S. castanea, Broun. S. eminens, Brown,

Sect. IV .- Head with hind angles as wide as the eyes, genæ nearly straight.

246. S. major, Sharp. 1882. S. ruficeps, Broun.

1877. S. sobrina, Broun. 2467. S. mimica, Broun.

1576. S. osculans, Broun.

S. pertinax, Broun.

#### Sect. V .- Head rounded and narrowed behind.

 1575. S. sulcator, Broun.
 S. lineata, Broun.

 1581. S. duplicata, Broun.
 247. S. prisca, Sharp.

 1876. S. hirtalis, Broun.
 248. S. misella, Sharp.

 1878. S. rectipes, Broun.
 249. S. parva, Sharp.

1580, S. bipunctata, Broun.

Sect. VI.—Head rounded behind, anterior femora notched in the males.

1480. S. terricola, Broun. 1577. S. fovealis, Broun. 1583. S. convexa, Broun. 2471. S. flavipes, Broun. S. rugifrons, Broun.

Sect. VII.—Head broad, hind angles obtuse.

1578. S. elevata, Broun. 253. S. denticollis, Broun. 1881. S. fulva, Broun.

Sect. VIII.—Head with obtuse hind angles, genæ nearly straight.

1884. S. anisarthra, Broun. 1880. S. punctata, Broun. S. spinifer, Broun.

Sect. IX.—Head with a fringed lamina underneath in the males, not narrowed behind.

2469. S. laminata, *Broun*. 2470. S. immota, probably female of 2469.

Sect. X .- Body slender, head broad behind.

1582. S. tenuis, Broun. 2473. S. gracilis, Broun.

#### EUPLECTUS.

Sect. I.—Head trigonal, front (sometimes middle) femora incrassate; species resembling Dalma in miniature.

 1700. E. eminens, Broun.
 1650. E. obnissus, Broun.

 1889. E. scruposus, Broun.
 E. tumipes, Broun.

 1647. E. patruelis, Broun.
 E. parvulus, Broun.

 1894. E. personatus, Broun.
 E. modestus, Broun.

1894. E. personatus, Broun. 1649. E. ovithorax, Broun.

Sect. II.—Head large, antennal tubercles very large and considerably elevated.

2475. E. lævifrons, Broun.

Sect. III.—Tubercles moderately elevated, eyes prominent, thorax with median groove.

255. E. trisulcicollis, Broun.
2476. E. spinifer, Broun.
2477. E. Munroi, Broun.

Sect. IV.—Thorax with median groove, eyes not prominent.

1648. E. monticola, Broun. 1646. E. crassipes, Broun. 258. E. opacus, Sharp.

Sect. V .- Thorax without median groove, eyes moderate.

254. E. convexus, Sharp, 1888. E. validus, Broun.

1654, E. U-impressus, Broun. 1655. E. cereus, Broun.

1896. E. patronus, Broun.

1652. E. incomptus, Brown. 261. E. brevitarsis, Broun.

257. E. longulus, Broun. E. arohaensis, Broun.

Sect. VI.—Head and thorax distinctly punctured, the latter with median groove.

256. E. asper, Broun. 1701. E. auripilus, Broun. 1892. E. clevedonensis, Broun. 2478. E. obscurus, Broun,

2479. E. coxalis, Brown, 1886. E. mærens, Broun. 1893. E. Sandageri, Broun.

E. foveiceps, Broun,

Sect. VII.—Head and thorax rather narrow, punctate; thorax nearly oviform, with median groove; tubercles small and shining.

262. E. ovicollis, Broun. 1898. E. antiques, Brown.

1897. E. verticalis, Broun. 1348. E. tuberigerus, Brown. E. pusillus, Broun.

2480. E. inscitus, Broun, 1887. E. lepiphorus, Broun. E. semiopacus, Broun.

Sect. VIII.—Tubercles almost contiguous; terminal joint of antenna very large.

2483, E. claviger, Broun.

Sect. IX.—Head broadly trigonal; tubercles convergent in front and on the same plane as the thick lateral margins.

259. E. sculpturatus, Broun.

Sect. X.-Body rather broad, smooth; thorax with three disconnected foveæ near base; eyes large and prominent.

263. E. foveolatus, Broun.

Sect. XI.—Head large, subquadrate, with peculiar sculpture.

260. E. frontalis, Brown,

1890. E. allocephalus, Broun.

1653. E. mirificus, Broun.

Sect. XII .- Hind body acuminate posteriorly, its last two segments quite unfolded and nearly horizontal.

> 1891. E. acuminatus, Broun. 2482. E. candatus, Brown.

I may here add that in the memoir read before the Entomological Society of London by Dr. Sharp on the 2nd November, 1874, six New Zealand species of Bryaxis were described; but the author considered that ultimately it would be correct to establish two new genera for their reception. is certain therefore that the thirty-six species now known, and which I have divided into seven sections, will have to be located in at least three distinct genera.

Sagola has forty-four species, but one of these (S. gracilis)

is, I think, the exponent of a new genus.

As regards the numerous species referred to Euplectus, I may state that I would have placed the nine species in Sect. I. in a new genus had I not been deterred by an allusion to the genus Adalmus, the characters of which are unknown to me. These nine species may prove to belong to Herr Reitter's genus, so I merely indicate their relationship. The species placed by itself in Sect. II. is, I believe, the representative of another genus, whilst those in Sects. VIII., IX., X., XI., and XII. will, I feel sure, require either four or five new genera for their systematic location. I have already made nine new generic names for this group, and with that I must be content for the present.

## Pselaphus ventralis, sp. n.

Slender, narrowed anteriorly, very sparingly and finely pubescent, shining; red, the tarsi, antennæ, and palpi

vellowish red.

Head elongate, oviform, finely sculptured; when examined from above the central channel seems to occupy half the whole area, and it appears to be longitudinally divided behind; when looked at sideways a groove can be seen along the vertex. Eyes small but distinct, with coarse facets. Thorax oviform, longer than broad, free from sculpture, somewhat laterally compressed near the posterior angles. Elytra hardly longer than broad, much narrowed towards the shoulders, with distinct sutural striæ. Hind body larger than the elytra, basal segment horizontal and broadly marginated. Legs elongate; femora clavate; tibiæ slender, slightly and gradually expanded towards the extremity.

Antennæ elongate, first joint minutely sculptured and longer than the next two; second quite as long as and stouter than the third; joints 4 to 8 about equal, each evidently longer than broad; ninth and tenth longer than broad, only moderately thick; eleventh large, oblique at one side, pointed. Maxillary palpi slender, quite the length of the antennæ; fourth joint curvate, its clavate portion about a third of the

entire length.

Underside red, the base of the abdomen covered with greyish sponge-like pubescence. Metasternum with a sort of raised lamina in front, nearly vertical or depressed behind, so that there seems to be a cavity between the widely separated hind coxe. Basal ventral segment broadly and deeply depressed; the depression extends from base to apex, and it appears to be limited behind by a slender carina.

The stature is greater than that of *P. delicatus* (No. 1697), the eyes are slightly larger, and the thighs are medially inflated. In No. 1697 there is a transverse depression at the base of the first dorsal segment; the hairs on the surface are more distinct and much more numerous; the sculpture and channel on the head are indefinite; the base of the first ventral segment is fringed with yellow hairs, and the central impression is only of moderate size and depth, and does not attain the apex. *P. Cavelli*, which also has swollen femora, can be easily separated.

3. Length 7, breadth quite 4 line.

Mount Pirongia. Four individuals, December 1893.

## Bryaxis Hectori, sp. n.

Nitid, nearly glabrous; sanguineous, the legs paler red,

palpi and tarsi yellowish.

Head subquadrate, with two obvious interocular foveæ and a broad frontal impression. Eyes prominent. Thorax of about equal length and breadth, the middle widest, without sculpture. Elytra oblong, slightly rounded laterally, moderately convex, with fine sutural striæ. Hind body short, much deflexed, more evidently (yet only finely) pubescent than the rest of the body. Legs of moderate length and

thickness, the tibiæ nearly quite straight.

Antennæ 10-articulate, as long as the head and thorax; the basal two joints of about equal length; third rather shorter than second, distinctly narrowed towards the base; fourth and sixth small, moniliform; fifth larger than the contiguous ones; seventh and eighth transverse, not broader than the fifth; ninth subquadrate, only very slightly longer than broad; tenth ovate, quite as long as the preceding one. The two enlarged terminal joints are darker and more coarsely and densely pilose than the others.

Underside rufescent. Metasternum broadly impressed. Basal ventral segment largest, bituberculate near apex; fifth

broadly depressed at the base.

3. Length 5, breadth 4 line.

Tarukenga, near Rotorua. Two males.

Named in honour of Sir James Hector, the Director of the Colonial Museum.

# Sagola rugifrons, sp. n.

Rufescent, legs and elytra rufo-testaceous; tarsi and palpi yellow; pubescence conspicuous.

Head smaller than thorax, considerably narrowed behind

the eyes, subopaque, distinctly punctured and finely transversely rugose in front; the tubercles rather small and flat, frontal channel moderately broad but not deep, almost as broad between the tubercles as at its termination in line with the back of the eyes; it is not very distinct when viewed from behind, owing to the fine transversely disposed pubescence; there are two elongate foveæ on the vertex. Eyes prominent. Antennæ long and stout, pubescent; first joint red, cylindric, punctate, about the length of the following three conjointly; joints 2, 4, and 5 nearly equal, longer than broad; third moderately small, longer than broad; 6 to 8 equal, hardly longer than broad, narrowed apically; ninth and tenth transverse; eleventh short, but with a distinct terminal appendage. Thorax cordate, with a large impression behind the middle; two minute foveæ near the base, and a large lateral fossa in front of each posterior angle. Elytra oblong, slightly narrowed towards the base, with well-marked sutural and intrahumeral grooves: they are not distinctly punctate. Hind body hardly longer than the wing-cases, the two basal segments much depressed at the base, the first with minute brassy scales. Legs robust. Front femora with a deep semicircular notch near the base; the middle pair slender at the base, clavate or subangulate underneath. Tibiæ stout, the front pair slightly arched externally, the outer extremity narrowed or impressed; the intermediate thick, conspicuously pubescent, much bent inwardly near the extremity; the posterior slightly bent near the apex. Tarsi moderately slender.

Underside simple; head pubescent behind the middle.

Q. Elytra shorter, subquadrate, more narrowed towards the base. Legs robust; femora not notched; middle tibiæ stout, not bent, only a little narrowed externally near the apex, curved outwardly. Abdomen rather larger, the first visible dorsal segment without minute scales.

The intermediate tibiæ of No. 252 (S. deformipes) are much thicker, the tarsi are nearly twice as thick, and the head and thorax are totally different. The form and sculpture of the head, in conjunction with the structure of the legs, will enable S. rugifrons to be recognized without trouble.

Length  $1\frac{1}{8}$ - $1\frac{1}{4}$ , breadth  $\frac{3}{8}$  line.

Mount Pirongia, March 1894. One of each sex.

Obs. The discovery of this species, in which there can be no doubt regarding the sexes, is important. It seems to prove that the head of the female in this genus in form and superficial appearance does not differ from that of the male; it also shows that the presence of minute scales on the basal dorsal segment is characteristic of the male.

# Sagola spinifer, sp. n.

Elongate, rather narrow, shining, red; elytra paler; legs yellow or reddish yellow; tarsi and palpi yellow; pubescent.

Head not broad, slightly narrowed behind; genæ nearly straight; tubercles rather small, obviously separated except at the extreme front; frontal channel broad and deep, almost parallel-sided, extending to beyond the middle of the eyes; there are two conspicuous foveæ behind; its surface is not distinctly punctured. Eyes large. Thorax about as long as it is broad, widest near the middle; with a large angular antebasal impression; two minute foveæ near the basal margin and a large fovea at each side occupying the space between the posterior angle and the middle. Elytra oblong, almost parallel-sided, with the common sutural and intrahumeral impressions, the latter more or less evidently divided into two parts; pubescence elongate. Hind body rather longer than the elytra, fourth segment about as long as the third, but not marginated; the basal segment with minute brassy scales. Legs moderate; front tibiæ slightly curved externally, the middle pair straight, the posterior gradually expanded, and with a spiniform appendage lying along the inside near the extremity. Tarsi moderately short.

Antennæ pubescent; first joint stout, cylindric; second hardly longer than broad; third small; joints 4 to 7 nearly

equal, 8 to 10 transverse, eleventh appendiculate.

Underside red, shining, pubescent. Head simple, with the usual broad groove behind the mentum. Metasternum rather long and convex, with a broad central channel. The middle coxe are rather widely separated and the mesosternal carina is indistinct. Abdomen elongate, basal segment with a small ridge between the coxe; segments 2 to 5 about equal, the hind margin of the fifth continuous with that of the upper surface; sixth somewhat retracted.

This species may be placed near No. 1880. It can be

easily identified by an examination of the hind tibiæ.

Var.—Thorax evidently longer than broad, almost oviform.

J. Length 1, breadth 1 line.

Mount Pirongia. Three examples found during December 1893 and March 1894.

#### Sagola eminens, sp. n.

Subdepressed, red; elytra and legs paler, tarsi and palpi reddish yellow; pubescence yellow, coarser and more erect on the hind body than elsewhere.

Head very broad behind, its hind angles directed outwards, so that the back part is wider than the thorax; its surface is very finely and distantly punctured, the small flattened tubercles more distinctly; frontal channel deep, extending as far as the back of the eyes; there are two foveæ behind. Antennæ rather long and stout; first joint twice as long as broad; second thick, longer than broad; fourth and fifth quite as long as broad, usually distinctly longer than broad; joints 6 to 8 moniliform; ninth and tenth transversely quadrate; eleventh conical; third small, quite as long as broad. Thorax cordate, widest near the front, much narrowed behind, with a large impression behind the middle, two small foveæ near the base, and a large impression at each side extending from the posterior angle to near the middle. Elytra but little longer than broad, with distinct sutural and intrahumeral grooves. Hind body longer and broader than the wing-cases. Legs moderately stout; tibiæ slightly arched and expanded apically; front tarsi with the basal two joints, taken together, shorter than the terminal one; claws small.

Underside chestnut-red, pubescent. Basal segment of abdomen with a carina which fits in between the coxe; sixth conical, compressed or foveolate at each side. Head apparently depressed in the centre, with distinct yellow hairs there; the genæ or hind angles are concave, and a second cavity extends inwards towards the middle. Mentum con-

cave in front.

The head is like that of Dryocora Howitti. The most nearly allied species is S. insignis, but this is larger, with longer and stouter antennæ; these, in S. insignis, differ in structure, joints 4 to 8 not being longer than broad, and they are more rounded. If the head of No. 1875 be looked at from behind, the usual basal foveæ seem to be absent or obsolete; they are, in fact, represented by little more than a pair of marginal notches. The eyes of S. eminens are larger. The frontal channel in No. 1875 (S. insignis) seems to attain the hind margin of the head when examined sideways.

3. Length 11, breadth 3 line.

Tarukenga, near Rotorua, three examples; Mount Pirongia, one.

## Euplectus tumipes, sp. n.

Subdepressed, clothed with fine decumbent yellowish pubescence, and with a few erect slender setæ; red, the elytra, legs, and antennæ paler, the tarsi and palpi fulvous.

Head subtrigonal, widest in line with the prominent eyes; the interocular foveæ are not well limited and are confluent or

prolonged anteriorly, the front is depressed; the vertex is convex and angularly produced; it is punctate, with very slender hairs. Thorax hardly longer than broad, oval, the middle widest; its surface more or less finely punctate, there is a large angular impression on the middle near the base; at each side an elongate fovea extends from the hind angle to beyond the middle; the central channel is extremely narrow, and extends from the base to the apex. Elytra longer than broad, wider than the thorax, indefinitely punctured; the sutural striæ are broad and deep near the base, between each of these and the broad elongate impression inside the shoulder there is a sort of costa; the humeral angles also are a little Hind body shorter than the elytra, the three apical segments deflexed; the basal with a large transverse median depression; each side of this is indistinctly elevated. stout, the front thighs incrassate and arched above; the middle and hind tibiæ rather slender and slightly curved externally, the anterior a good deal swollen inwardly near the middle and densely ciliate below.

Antennæ rather short; second joint nearly as long as the first, not bead-like; third very little longer than broad; joints 4 to 8 transverse and differing but little; the seventh, however, is slightly larger than the following one; ninth and tenth evidently larger than the preceding ones, ninth slightly larger than tenth; eleventh large, ovate, acuminate.

Underside: head with erect setae; prosternum subcarinate along the middle; metasternum impressed; fifth ventral segment with a median impression; coxæ contiguous, the

posterior large and prominent.

Barely half the bulk of Dalma pubescens. The antennal tubercles are not much raised and are obviously separated; interposed between each of these and the eye there is a smaller elevation. The basal portion of the thorax is more distinctly sculptured than the disk. An examination of the anterior tibiæ will lead to its recognition.

Length \(\frac{3}{4}\), breadth quite \(\frac{1}{4}\) line.

Hunua Range, Drury. One, April 1893, probably a male.

#### Euplectus parvulus, sp. n.

Rufous, elytra, legs, and antennæ paler; tarsi and palpi yellow; body subdepressed, narrowed anteriorly, rather closely clothed with short and thick hairs or setiform scales, as well as slender hairs; the pubescence on the head and thorax more scanty, longer, and quite slender.

Head narrower than the thorax, but not much shorter,

being nearly as long in front of the antennæ as it is behind them; its surface is closely and minutely asperate or punctate; the interocular foveæ are not large nor are they perceptibly prolonged forwards; the front is rather flat near the small distant tubercles. Eyes moderate. Antennæ rather short and slender; second joint smaller than the first; third slightly longer than broad, narrowed towards the base; joints 4 to 8 nearly alike; ninth nearly twice the size of the small bead-like eighth joint; tenth also transverse and rather larger than the preceding one; eleventh large, acuminate. Thorax about as long as it is broad, oviform, base and apex of about equal width, broadest behind the middle; disk not quite smooth, the sides more distinctly punctate or asperate, but not at all coarsely; the well-marked central channel does not attain the apex; near the base, in the middle, there is a large angular depression; the large fovea near each hind angle is somewhat prolonged forwards, and there is a more or less distinct transverse groove in front of the base. Elytra subquadrate, longer and broader than the thorax, indistinctly sculptured; the sutural striæ and intrahumeral impressions are moderate; the slightly raised space between these seems to have a short basal stria, which is quite distinct from the others. Hind body rather shorter than the elytra; the basal segment is slightly shorter than the second or third, and has a shallow median transverse impression; the apical segments are deflexed. Legs moderate; front femora incrassate, nearly straight along the front or lower face, the opposite one much swollen or arched; tibiæ slightly arched externally, not thick; tarsi slender.

E. tumipes has a broader head, larger and more prominent eyes, a broader and more anteriorly narrowed thorax, with a

narrower discoidal groove.

Length \(\frac{3}{4}\), breadth \(\frac{1}{4}\) line.

Maketu, Hunua Range. One, probably a female.

# Euplectus modestus, sp. n.

Body moderately elongate, shining, obsoletely punctate;

dark red, tarsi and antennæ reddish yellow.

Head slightly narrowed behind the eyes; it is depressed across the middle, and the interocular foveæ seem to form part of the depression; the back part appears raised; it is angularly produced in the middle; the antennal tubercles are not conspicuous, and the intervening space is nearly on the same level. Eyes moderate, only slightly convex. Thorax about as long as broad, widest near the middle, quite as much

narrowed in front as it is behind; the central groove does not reach the apex, and it is a little expanded in the middle; near the base a transverse impression connects the centrobasal angular fovea and the large one at each side. Elytra oblong, slightly narrowed towards the shoulders; the sutural and intrahumeral impressions are well-marked; close to the base there are two punctiform marks. Hind body not longer than the elytra, the basal three segments marginated and nearly equal, the first depressed across the base, fourth deflexed and as long as the third, fifth simple. Legs moderately elongate, not thick, the anterior femora most robust.

Antennæ slender, the basal two joints nearly equal as to length; third nearly as long as the second, but much more slender; 4 to 7 differ but little; eighth rather smaller; ninth and tenth larger than the preceding ones, scarcely trans-

versal; eleventh large, acuminate.

Underside rufescent. Head simple, studded with erect sets, which are thickened at the extremity; the frontal portion is short. Front and middle coxee contiguous, the posterior nearly so at the base. Segments 2 to 4 subequal; first densely pubescent, covered by the femora, with a central prominence between the coxe; fifth hardly as long in the middle as at the sides; the terminal one with a fine suture, so that there seems to be a supplementary segment.

This species must be placed with No. 1700 and its allies; from these it may be distinguished by the slender antennæ

and sculpture. The pubescence is short and slender.

Length 7, breadth nearly 3 line.

Invercargill. One, received from Mr. A. Philpott, March 1894.

## Euplectus arohaensis, sp. n.

Subdepressed, not narrow, moderately nitid; red, the legs and antennæ paler; tarsi and palpi yellowish; pubescence yellow, rather dense, short, and decumbent; there are also

many erect, elongate, slender setæ.

Head large, widest behind, apparently impunctate; the large interocular foveæ unite with the frontal depression; the tubercles are small and widely separated, and the frontal channel is bounded by the slightly raised front edge of the forehead. Eyes rather small. Thorax hardly longer than broad, the middle widest, the apex scarcely as wide as the base; it is impunctate; in front of the base there is an angulate impression which unites with the fovea at each side; there is no central longitudinal groove. Elytra hardly longer than broad, narrowed towards the shoulders; the sutural and

intrahumeral striæ are well-marked and broad, the shoulders are slightly raised, or seem to be so. *Hind body* quite the length of the elytra, narrowed posteriorly. *Legs* only moderately stout; the *tibiæ* nearly straight, the intermediate on the inside, a little above the extremity, with a small but distinct process directed inwards.

Underside rufous, shining, finely and sparingly clothed. Metasternum with a broad longitudinal channel. Abdomen sometimes dusky; first segment covered by the femora, 2 to 5 become shorter; sixth medially emarginate and with the extreme apical portion hollowed out. The middle and hind

trochanters are prominent and distinctly spined.

Antennæ about the length of the head and thorax; second joint more slender than and nearly as long as the first; third a little longer than the fourth; fifth rather larger than those next to it; 6 to 8 small, bead-like, about equal; ninth not much larger than the preceding one; tenth transverse, larger than ninth; eleventh largest, conical, acuminate.

2. Tibiæ unarmed. Metasternum unimpressed. Abdo-

men simple. Trochanters not acuminate.

Belongs to Sect. IV. of the accompanying table. The male characters differentiate it from all its allies.

Length quite  $\frac{3}{4}$ , breadth  $\frac{1}{4}$  line.

Mount Te Aroha. I was fortunate enough to find about a dozen examples, representing both sexes, March 1894.

## Euplectus foveiceps, sp. n.

Rufescent; legs and antennæ yellowish red; densely clothed with yellow, small, depressed pubescence and elongate slender setæ.

Head narrowed anteriorly, slightly rounded behind, punctate or asperate, the sculpture rendered indefinite by the minute brassy hairs, somewhat flattened, but not channelled in front; when examined sideways one well-marked central fovea can be seen. Thorax cordiform, not longer than broad, sculptured like the head; the angular depression in front of the base is prolonged forwards as a broad discoidal groove; the lateral foveæ are not distinctly connected with the transverse basal impression. Elytra quadrate, indistinctly sculptured; the sutural striæ are well marked; there appear to be one or two other ill-defined grooves on each elytron. Hind body as broad as the elytra, rather longer; the basal three segments equal. Legs simple.

Underside chestnut-red, shining, pubescent.

Antennæ moderate; second joint oblong, evidently smaller

than the first; third slightly longer than broad; 4 to 8 differ but little, except that the fifth is a little larger than the contiguous ones; ninth transverse, about half the size of the

tenth; eleventh large, acuminate.

3. Metasternum with a broad depression behind the middle. Posterior coxee prominent, but not spined. Basal ventral segment covered by the femora and with a prominence between the coxe; second and third with a transverse median elevation; fourth with a slight depression across the middle; fifth but little shorter than the preceding one; sixth large, not distinctly impressed.

From all the species in Sect. VI. this may be separated by the less evident punctuation and the single fovea on the

vertex.

Length \(\frac{3}{4}\), breadth \(\frac{1}{4}\) line.

Ligar's Bush, Papakura. One of each sex.

# Euplectus semiopacus, sp. n.

Brick-red, rather pale; elytra and legs reddish yellow; head and thorax closely punctured and opaque; elytra and abdomen slightly nitid; form elongate, but not parallel; pubescence very short and slender, rather dense, but not

conspicuous.

Head, including the eyes, nearly as broad as the thorax, rounded behind; rather plane above, with two minute indistinct interocular foveæ; there is no distinct frontal depression. Eyes large and convex. Thorax oviform, rather longer than broad; with a rather shallow antebasal transverse impression, ending in an elongate fovea at each side; the dorsal longitudinal channel is only moderately impressed. Elytra oblong, slightly rounded laterally, indistinctly sculptured; sutural striæ distinct, the intrahumeral impressions not perceptibly prolonged backwards. Hind body as long as the wing-cases, rather narrower, the basal three segments about equal; the first broadly depressed at the base; fourth somewhat swollen or convex along the middle. Legs moderate.

Antennæ rather short; second joint only slightly longer than broad; third of similar proportions, but not rounded; 4 to 8 small, about equal, bead-like; ninth and tenth transverse, the latter the broader; eleventh conical, pointed.

Metasternum broadly canaliculate behind.

E. ovicollis (No. 262) is very similar; but the thorax is a little shining, quite glossy, and almost impunctate in front;

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its discoidal punctuation is not so close, and the eyes are not so large and prominent.

Length 5, breadth nearly 1 line.

Maketu, Hunua Range. One of doubtful sex.

# Euplectus pusillus, sp. n.

Elongate, subopaque, reddish; legs and antennæ paler;

pubescence dense, depressed, short, yellow.

Head small, longer than broad, narrowed anteriorly; obviously and closely punctate, without distinct fovcæ or impressions. Eyes of moderate size. Thorax longer than broad, oviform, not so dull as the head, similarly sculptured; the elongate fovea at each side and the channel along the middle are united in front of the base by a transverse impression; none are deep. Elytra quadrate, as long as the thorax, apparently impunctate; the sutural striæ are broad, the impressions inside the shoulders are not prolonged backwards. Hind body rather longer than the elytra, the basal three segments about equal, the first slightly depressed across the base. Leas stout, simple.

Antennæ short; second joint nearly as large as the basal one; third small, slightly longer than broad; fourth small, bead-like; 5 to 10 transverse, the ninth not greatly exceeding the eighth, tenth nearly twice the bulk of the preceding one;

eleventh large, acuminate.

Underside glossy, chestnut-red; ventral segments 2 to 4 nearly equal and rather large; fifth broad, not much shorter than the fourth; sixth also broad, with more pubescence than

the others; first hidden by the femora.

This small species must be placed near *E. antiquus*, which, however, has less prominent eyes and shorter tarsi; it is more shining than *E. pusillus*, its thorax is rather longer and narrower, and the hind angles of the head, instead of being obtuse, are slightly prominent.

Length 1, breadth 1 line.

Tarukenga, near Rotorua. Two examples.

Var.—Head with an ill-defined longitudinal channel behind and obsolete interocular foveæ. Basal dorsal segment with a fovea-like depression at the middle of the base, the fourth more unfolded. Genæ parallel-sided. Antennal tubercles equally small, but more shining.

This was found on Mount Te Aroha in March 1894, and I daresay will prove to be a distinct species; but as I have but one example, of the female sex, I treat it as a variety at

present.

#### Group Silphidæ.

## SILPHOTELUS, gen. nov.

Body suboblong, moderately convex, nearly glabrous. Head comparatively large and broad, not at all trigonal. Eyes large, rotundate, lateral, barely free from the thorax, finely facetted; their inner margin is not well defined; just inside each eye there is a minutely sculptured swelling; this is limited from the vertex by a distinct depression, causing these organs at first sight to appear very much larger than they really are. Antennæ 11-articulate, almost filiform, elongate, inserted close to the front of the eyes; their two basal joints cylindric, about equally stout, the second the shorter; joints 3 to 8 slender, gradually decreasing in length, the third evidently longer than the following ones: ninth and tenth short, broader than the preceding ones; eleventh nearly twice the bulk of the tenth; these three terminal joints do not form a distinct club. Maxillary palpi moderately elongate; basal joint minute, second narrow at the base; third oblong, quite as long as the second, and not broader than the apex of that joint; fourth rather longer than the preceding one, quite half its width, almost aciculate. Thorax transverse, with distinct lateral margins, base feebly bisinuate; apex of about the same width as the head, subtruncate, not very obviously marked off from the head. Scutellum triangular. Elytra ample, scarcely at all wider than the thorax at the base, finely marginated and but little curved at the sides; apices nearly quite truncate, so that the pygidium is usually exposed. Legs slender; tibiæ simple, with fine setæ only. Tarsi narrow; in the male the basal joint of the front and middle pair are a little dilated, but quite oblong; second subquadrate; third moderately small, its apex slightly emarginate, not lobate; fourth elongate; posterior tarsi narrow and elongate.

Underside.—Mentum broad and truncate at the base, narrowed anteriorly. Fore part of the head like that of Choleva, Prosternum nearly truncate in front. Anterior coxee almost contiguous; the middle pair rather widely separated, the hind pair nearly approximated, the trochanters large. The mess-sternum has a rather broad process. Metasternum large; in front it is much rounded and finely margined; it extends between the middle coxe, and there it is on nearly the same plane as the mesosternal process. Epipleuræ quite linear behind. Abdomen on a lower level than the sternum, com-

posed of six segments, the apical narrow.

The type is a minute and curious creature. The head, as seen from above, is more like that of a water-beetle than that of a Silpha; at each side, in front of the eye, there is a narrow excision; this, I believe, enables the antenna to be placed over the head. The ventral seg ments are retractile, so that the pygidium is often concealed above. The antennæ are somewhat similar to those of a Corticaria (C. pacata, for example); their eighth joint is not at all abbreviated. The genus may be placed near Choleva, though I fail to detect more than four joints to the tarsi.

# Silphotelus nitidus, sp. n.

Shining, variegated fuscous, with only a few minute setæ behind; the legs, the first two joints of the antennæ, and the thoracic lateral margins pale reddish brown; apices of elytra

paler.

Head nearly smooth. Antennæ sparingly pilose, very gradually dilated apically. Thorax much broader than long, slightly curvedly narrowed anteriorly; in front of the middle the side margins and channels are more distinct than they are near the base; the apex and base are not marginated; the posterior angles are rectangular, the anterior are not prominent; the disk seems smooth, but towards the sides a fine punctuation may be seen. Elytra distinctly, rather finely, and not very regularly punctured, their sculpture less apparent after the middle; there are no well-marked sutural striæ. Legs with fine yell owish setæ; tibiæ straight.

Underside fuscous, sparingly and finely pubescent. The metasternum nearly smooth in the middle, its sides rather coarsely and closely punctured. The last ventral segment

bears a few slender elongate pale hairs.

Length 5, breadth 3 line.

Hunua Range. Five examples found during two years amongst decaying leaves on the ground.

# BÆOSILPHA, gen. nov.

Bedy broadly oval, narrowed posteriorly, moderately convex, obviously pubescent. Head small, immersed to the eyes, narrow in front. Eyes convex. Mentum transversely quadrate. Maxillary palpi short; terminal joints very broad and securiform, the others small. Labial palpi indistinguishable. Antennæ quite the length of the head and thorax, 11-articulate, stout; basal two joints equally elongate; third and fourth longer than broad, smaller than the preceding one; sixth rather shorter than fifth; eighth little more than half

the length of, but nearly as broad as, the contiguous ones; joints 7 to 11 moderately dilated. Thorax transverse, much curvedly narrowed anteriorly; front angles obtuse, the posterior nearly rectangular. Scutellum small. Elytra of the same width as the thorax at the base, gradually narrowed behind. Pygidium covered. Legs short. Femora not clavate. Tibiæ with small terminal spines, the middle and hind pair more or less finely spinulose externally. Tarsi elongate, slender, five-jointed.

Prosternum deeply emarginate at apex. Anterior coxce prominent and contiguous; middle pair distinctly separated, not at all prominent; the posterior subcontiguous. Mesosternum with a fine curved central carina. Metasternum of moderate length, transversely convex. Epipleuræ broad at the base, linear behind. Abdomen composed of five nearly

equal segments.

The sternal structure differs much from the *Choleva* allies. The broad hatchet-shaped apical joints of the maxillary palpi are characteristic. Though *Camiarus* has nearly similarly formed palpi, the flanks of the prosternum are not hollowed, as they are in *Beostloha*.

# Bæosilpha rufescens, sp. n.

Shining, reddish; tarsi and palpi yellow; pubescence

yellow, conspicuous, but not coarse.

Head nearly vertical in front, smooth. Antennæ inserted near the inner and front margins of the eyes, pubescent; joints 7, 9, and 10 equally broad, seventh rather larger than these others. Thorax nearly twice as broad as it is long, its base feebly bisinuate, the anterior angles rounded and depressed, margins indistinct; the surface apparently quite smooth. Elytra with lateral margius, the sutural striæ definite; their sculpture is moderately fine, appearing punctiform or irregularly transversely strigose, according to the way in which it is examined.

*Underside* rufescent, shining; abdomen finely sculptured and bearing distinct yellow hairs; the metasternum smooth.

Length 1, breadth quite \frac{1}{2} line.

Mount Pirongia; one example, March 1894. A second specimen was found at Tarukenga, near Rotorua. Both were taken from decaying leaves on the ground.

# Mesagyrtes, gen. nov.

Body oblong-oval, moderately convex, closely covered with depressed pubescence. Antennæ not as long as the head and

thorax, 11-jointed; club 4-jointed. Tarsi 5-articulate, the two hind pairs elongate and slender; the anterior widely dilated, each of the three basal joints being about twice as broad as long; the first and second are emarginate at the extremity, the third is broadly cordiform, the fourth is small, the fifth is elongate and slender. Tibiæ: anterior considerably expanded towards the extremity, oblique there, with a short spine at the inner angle, and with five or six minute denticles on the outside below the middle; the other two pairs multispinose externally.

The eighth joint of the antennæ is not abbreviated, as in *Choleva* and its allies. In *Agyrtes* the antennal club is five-jointed, and, as is not the case in *Choleva*, the tibiæ are externally spinose; the proper place for *Mesagyrtes* is, without doubt, between these two genera. The *eyes* are rotundate and convex, and are quite free from the lateral margins of

the head.

# Mesagyrtes scabripes, sp. n.

Oblong-oval, subopaque, fuscous, densely covered with peculiar yellow pubescence; legs red, palpi and tarsi paler;

antennæ pale reddish, club infuscate.

Head abruptly narrowed in front of the eyes, flat between these, very finely sculptured. Thorax about one third broader than long, widest at the base, more rounded and narrowed before the middle than it is behind, its base is truncate; the anterior angles are rounded, the posterior almost rectangular; it is finely marginated, and the surface is closely and very finely sculptured. Scutellum distinct, triangular. Elytra of the same width as the thorax at the base, very little narrowed posteriorly; each elytron has a fine, slightly sinuous, sutural stria; the whole surface is finely and closely sculptured; the sculpture, however, is not well defined.

Antenná finely pubescent, insertéd close to the front of the eyes; first joint rather stouter and longer than the second, both elongate; third and fourth longer than broad, the latter the shorter; sixth shorter than fifth, but not at all transverse; seventh obconical, distinctly broader than the sixth, but not so broad as the next one; joints 8 to 10 transverse,

eleventh longer than the tenth.

Underside fuscous, with fine dense clothing. Prosternum emarginate in front; anterior coxæ contiguous. Mesosternum medially carinate in front, its process on a higher plane, moderately broad, and separating the middle coxæ. Metasternum slightly flattened in the middle. The hind coxæ nearly touch. Femora broad.

The clothing is remarkable; the hairs are arranged in lines, with single ones proceeding obliquely from the central ones. Nos. 283, 284, 285, and 286 must be placed in this genus.

3. Length 1, breadth quite 1 line. Hunua Range, Drury. One example.

# Choleva marginalis, sp. n.

Oval, not narrow, moderately convex, slightly nitid; fuscous, the legs, the apical and two or three basal joints of the antennæ nearly chestnut-red, the front and middle tarsi paler; pubescence dense, very slender, cinereous; on the

elytra there are some short erect setæ.

Thorax transverse, much curvedly narrowed anteriorly; base and apex subtruncate; the posterior angles just perceptibly overlapping the shoulders, its surface very finely sculptured. Scutellum distinct, broadly triangular. Elytra gradually attenuated posteriorly, apices subtruncate, exposing the pygidium; with well-marked sutural strice and close transversely strigose sculpture; the lateral margins are well developed from the shoulders to the hind thighs. Antennæ stout, pubescent, the basal three joints equally elongate; fourth and fifth a little shorter and rather stouter; sixth rather longer than broad, not quite so broad as the seventh; eighth transverse, not very small, not much narrower than the contiguous ones; tenth a little smaller than the preceding one.

3. Legs stout, femora thick; the front tibie with a distinct spine at the inner extremity and a smaller one at the outside; the intermediate strongly curvate, with a distinct spine at the inner apex, a smaller one outside, and two or three finer ones higher up; the posterior with elongate terminal spines, and eight or ten much finer ones along the outer edge. Anterior tarsi with the basal three joints strongly dilated.

Underside shining, chestnut-brown, finely clothed, the

middle of the metasternum obtusely raised.

The nearest species are C. luqubris, Sharp, and C. fulvitarsis. From the former it differs by the shorter and broader form and by the presence of slender spines on the hind tibiæ; from the latter it may be distinguished by the more slender and less evidently pubescent middle tibiæ, shorter scutellum, less opaque surface, and by the more expanded elytral margins.

J. Length 13, breadth 5 line.

Mount Te Aroha, two examples; Papakura, one. on the ground amongst fallen leaves.

# Choleva suturalis, sp. n.

Narrow, subopaque; pubescence slender, dense, ash-coloured; nigro-fuscous, the tibiæ, palpi, and the basal two or

three joints obscure red.

Thorax nearly twice as broad as it is long, base and apex nearly straight, slightly curvate, and narrowed towards the front. Scutellum minute. Elytra twice as long as broad, gradually narrowed posteriorly, slightly impressed near the middle; sutural strie distinct, the sutural region from near the apex to beyond the middle appears slightly convex; apices individually rounded. Legs stout, intermediate tibiae curved, the spines of the posterior shorter than the basal joint of the tarsi; front tarsi with the three first joints dilated, fourth small. Antennae stout, longer than the head and thorax, the basal three joints elongate; fourth and fifth elongate, but shorter than the preceding one; sixth quadrate; seventh at least a third longer than the sixth; eighth evidently smaller than fifth; ninth and tenth nearly similar to the seventh.

Sculpture close, consisting principally of transverse linear marks, that of the elytra more distinct than in C. relata.

This is without doubt most nearly allied to No. 2350 (C. relata), but the thorax is more transverse and its anterior angles are less contracted and depressed. The scutellum is much smaller, the sutural region and apices of elytra are different, and the body is even narrower.

J. Length 11, breadth quite 3 line.

West Plains, Invercargill. One of each sex sent by Mr. A. Philpott, together with a female of No. 2350, in which the sixth joint of the antennæ is transverse.

[To be continued.]

# X.—On the Brush-tailed Porcupine of Central Africa. By Oldfield Thomas.

In 1887 the British Museum received, in the first and most valuable collection presented by Emin Pasha, three skins of a Brush-tailed Porcupine, which, in the absence of proper West-African specimens for comparison, I referred \* to Atherura africana, Gray. Since then the skulls have been extracted from the type and other specimens from the West Coast, and the Museum has also received additional material from that region, among which the most noteworthy is a very

<sup>\*</sup> P. Z. S. 1888, p. 15.